is done regularly to ensure its proper functioning. Computerised. booking facility for cutomers is being provided in a phased manner. Round the clock booking facility has already been provided in Delhi, Bombay and Calcutta on specified counters. There is no proposal for the present to introduce speed post delivery facility on holidays.

Duties irk NRI-Air Taxi Operators

2833. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report captioned "Duties irk NRI-Air Taxi Operators" that appeared in the 'Indian Express' of the December 13, 1991;

(b) if so, what are the precise demands of these Air Taxi Operators; and

(c) what is the Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Air taxioperators have been demanding certain infrastructural facilities at the airports, relief in countervailing duty and Special Excise Duty on import of aircraft and greater flexibility in repatriation of their dividends etc. Through notification No. 42/92-CENTRAL EXCISES dated March 1, 1992, aeroplanes and helicopters falling under sub-heading No. 8802.00 of the Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985 (5 of 1986), have been exempted from the whole of the duty of excise leviable thereon which is specified in the Schedule. The revised foreign exchange regime also gives full freedom for repatriation of profits, dividends etc.

Comprehensive plan for Air Taxi Operator

2834. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is comprehensive plan to promote private air-taxi services; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and how the taxi services would be coordinated with national airlines so as to serve public interest at its best?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The Scheme of Air Taxi operations was introduced in 1986 with a view to give boost to the development of tourism, supplement the services provided by the existing scheduled operations and improve the services by infusing some competition and also make available a fleet of aircraft in case of need. Air Taxi Services can be operated to any airfield to which scheduled services operate. There are no restrictions on the size and type of aircraft and fares.

एयर इंडिया के सहयोग से पर्यटन का विकास

2835. **डा० बापू कालदाते:** क्या नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पर्यटन को बढ़ावा देने के लिये पर्यटन विभाग के सहयोग में एयर इंडिया कोई योजना बना रही है; और

(ख) यदि हां तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है?

नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री माधवराव सिंधिया): (क) और (ख) एअर इंडिया ने भारत सरकार के पर्यटन विभाग के सहयोग से शुरू में यूरोप में पर्यटन संवर्धन कार्यक्रम शुरू किया जिसे बाद में यू०के०, यू०एस०ए०, आस्ट्रेलिया, पश्चिम एशिया और सुदूर पूर्व तक बढ़ाया गया।

इस योजना के अंतर्गत, एअर इंडिया के विदेशों में स्थित कार्यालय, भारत सरकार के पर्यटन कार्यालयों के साथ मिलकर नीचे दिए गए कार्य करते हैं:—